INDIANA UNIVERSITY - PURDUE UNIVERSITY - FORT WAYNE

Wednesday
January 17, 2007

THE COMMUNICATOR

Volume 37, Issue N (16)

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Students speaks on Al Gore, his movement, and the awareness. PAGE A2

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Season off to a good start with two wins at home. PAGE A2

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

✦ Movie Makers, Walb Fire side Lounge, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

✦ "American Bodies, American Idols?" CM 148, 12:00 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Lunch will be served.

✦ "Collaborative learning and Research with Breeze" KT 205B, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

✦ "Hopes and Dreams, Goals and Objectives," 12:00 p.m.-1:20 p.m. KT 205B

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

✦ Women's Basketball vs. Butler, 1 p.m. Gates Sports Center

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

✦ "Pedagogical Scholarship" with members of the CELT Advisory Board, KT 234, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

✦ IPFW Book Discussion Group, *Going After Cacciato* by Tim O'Brien; KT 101, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

✦ MS Access Basics, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., KT 205B; Mandi Witkovsky, instructor.

Men's Volleyball: "Unity Will Win Us The Championship This Year"

The IPFW Mastodons Prepare For A Second Record-Breaking Season With Team Spirit, Togetherness

By Jessie Ruckman
News Editor

As the 2007 season opened for "Arnie's Army" this past weekend against Saint Francis and Penn State ,the resounding message coming from the team was unity-which is a quality that both coaches and players agree will help lead them to a championship title, as well as overall harmony throughout the season.

The Mastodons 3-0 win against Penn State on Saturday proved that they are well-placed, ranking seventh in the country and within reach of their goal of dominating the Final Four again this season.

"There is definitely a lot of pressure and we have a big target on our chests within the conference. Last year we were underdogs, and now our job is to defend our title. It will not be handed to us on a silver platter and we know that we will have to work for it," said junior outside hitter CJ Macias after Saturday night's game.

Though there are many outstanding players this season, every player believes that he is not a single unit but instead an integral part of the whole. "We are not comprised of just a few key players; we are balanced." Macias said. "Colin [Lundeen] spreads the ball out so that everyone hits. Everyone counts on everyone."

The team's unity is apparent, their relationship as a whole tightly woven through their lives not only as teammates, but as friends too. Junior middle hitter Josh Stewart and his brother, freshman Corey Stewart, are teammates as well as roommates along with senior Colin Lundeen and junior Brock Ullrich.

"We have a lot of good chemistry; we all function well together as a unit, as well as being friends," Macias said.

Senior Vitor Oliveira agrees that the team functions efficiently as a unit. "We are not about just one star player, but the whole group functions as one. CJ [Macias] is our main hitter but the outsider hitters are playing well this year. The unity of the team is our greatest strength. We do everything together. We don't have troublemakers on the team. We are all cool with each other and I think that that sets us apart from other teams as well as past teams."

Though the Mastodons work as a team, there are several players whose performance is something to watch. According to assistant coach Ryan Perrotte, some of the players to keep tabs on are Colin Lundeen, setter; All-American CJ Macias as a power hitter; Josh Collins and Brock Ullrich as consistent passers. All are returning Mastodons, and according to Perrotte, "The core of our team has returned and that will help us a lot with our consistency and teamwork." The fact that so many are returning also helps to deal with the road to the Final Four.

With the graduation of only three of the team's players from last season, including Mike Daiga, Serdar Sikca and Michael Quinones, the 'Dons seem to only be adding to their core of talented players. And with the returning muscle of seasoned players, the team seems to be set for a run for the Final Four.

"We are such a close-knit group-I think that our group cohesion is the biggest reason for our success. It is a true team effort," cites Coach Perrotte as the reson for the success of the Mastodons' core team.

Do not count the freshmen 'Dons out, however.

Freshman Matt Pliske is the new defensive specialist replacing injured libero Mike Morici, who tore his ACL in the off-season. Pliske has already illustrated his talent in the first two matches against Saint Francis and Penn State alongside Nate Berg, Andrew Greaves and Corey Stewart who are establishing their own places within the team as well.

Junior Jason Yohst, a transfer to IPFW this year from Rutgers will also be a player to watch.

Though there is a high degree of talent with the returning and new players, the remainder of the 2007 season will not be an easy road to the Final Four or the National Championship.

According to Perrotte, Stanford and UC Santa Barbara will be tough matches as well as Loyola, Ohio State, Ball State and Quincy. Though the battle will be uphill for the Dons, Coach Perrotte said, "We are all excited for the season to be underway and we are thankful for the campus and community support. Our only goal this year is to win the National Title."

Photo by Nic Pyle

Josh Collins, Matt Pliske, C.J. Macias, and Josh Stewart celebrate after scoring against Penn State, Saturday night in the Gates Sports Center.

IPFW's Family Health Clinic taking new clients

By Jenna Tompkins
Editor-in-Chief

The Lafayette Street Family Health Clinic, a nurse practitioner managed facility, is now taking new clients. The clinic offers a wide variety of care to males and females who have reached maturity, even those who are uninsured.

Jennifer Bowers, director of IPFW Lafayette Street Family Health Clinic, explains that the clinic is similar to a Planned Parenthood facility, "We receive the government funds that Planned Parenthood used to receive, so that we may offer the free and discounted services. Planned Parenthood is still there, but they don't really offer the free services anymore."

The services provided by the clinic range from family planning to reproductive health examinations. Also given at the location are birth control, pregnancy tests and emergency contraceptives. The fees for the services are based on family size and income. Bowers said that those who need to use the facility may do so as much as needed. "If someone is worried about a Sexually Transmitter Disease, we offer testing. Also, we encourage people to get tested for HIV every three to six months."

Those who are interested in visiting The Lafayette Street Family Health Clinic are encouraged to make appointments, however, walk-ins are acceptable. The clinic, which is located at 2700 South Lafayette Street, Suite 200, is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Lafayette Street Family Health Clinic at 260-744-3000.

Motivational Speaker, Entertainer Visits IPFW

By Jessie Ruckman
News Editor

Comedian and motivational speaker Judson Laipply visited IPFW's Walb Union Thursday, entertaining and educating students and faculty alike. A full-time speaker since 2002, Laipply tours the country in order to inspire people from all age groups and backgrounds through what he calls "comedy with content," offering a chance for people to take a break from their regular routines and enjoy being inspired.

"I offer a temporary escape with the tools to help people permanently change their lives," said Laipply after Thursday's show. Not just a motivational speaker, Laipply has a bachelor's degree from Bluffton University and a master's degree from Bowling Green State University, along with an array of experiences ranging from certified aerobics instructor, poet, auctioneer to columnist.

The speaker/comedian enlivened the audience at IPFW and also encouraged them to step outside of their everyday routine and think about their lives, as well as their role within society as a whole.

Laipply strives to keep his routines fresb and audience oriented, tailoring his messages for many diverse groups ranging from kindergarteners to corporate employces and every stop in between.

Laipply believes that his messages provide a short-term escape from the every day routine, and in doing so, provides a given audience with the tools necessary to change their lives, if even in a simple way.

According to Laipply, his show includes everyday inspirational messages tucked neatly within memorable jokes and skits so that the audience may not only be entertained, but that they may also take more away from his show than just a few laugbs and some dance moves. He believes that anyone could stand and give a speech or a lecture, but when it comes down to the heart of the issue, most people in the audience do not leave with much of the message. It is usually more memorable for the audience if they are left with a message within laughter and performance, which is where his dance routine comes in.

Laipply performs a roughly six minute physical retelling of what he calls the "evolution of dance", which begins from 1095's style dance, through disco, grunge and popular music today. But if students missed the Thursday performance, they need not be upset; the video is available on www.youtube.com. Laippley has also made appearances on moroing news shows including The Today Show and Good Morning America, and is spreading his message throughout the country.

"I have always been a big proponent of enjoying life, but also thinking about life and wbat you can do to make it better because the reality is we have nothing really to complain about," said Laipply.

This week, the speaker visited IPFW; next week he will be in Orlando, but with a promise that some day he will be back to this campus with laughter and thoughtful advice again.

For more information on Judson Laipply, his motivational speaking, "the evolution of dance" his background and dance video, visit his website at www.judson.tv or www.youtube.com.

Photo by Clint Keller

Comedian and motivational speaker Judson Laipply of Cleveland performs "The Evolution of Dance" for students at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne. (Courtesy of Clint Keller/The (Fort Wayne, IN) Journal Gazette Pulisbed Jan January 12. 2007).

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Said El-Dajani
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Podium

Wednesday, January 17, 2007
vol. XXXVII, issue XVI

Global warming: The world's newest reality check

■ Al Gore, the truth and its inconvenience. Is it too late?

Said Said Something

By Said El-Dajani

Said EL-Dajani is a junior Graphic Design major and writes 'Said Said Something' for The Communicator. His views do not necessarily agree with those of the newspaper

A new year has dawn upon our precious world, cutting through our winter season, a fiscal quarter, and our holiday spirits. Reality settles in, along with the musky smell of routine, and for what ever second you stand to look at your surroundings, something is different. Something is not right.

Instead of walking through inches of snow, or bearing our thickest of coats, we find ourselves enjoying the unusual warmth, maybe hiding our true gut feeling- Global warming? Is it real?

I look outside my window sometimes, and see the ducks, the face of yearly cycle, the birdof migration, and to my dismay, watch them stick around- waiting for that harsh gear shift that allows them to leave for a period of time, only to return safely and expectedly.

I had heard about this global warming phenomenon, but what was it all about? What could it mean?

I decided a good trip to the video store, where I once noticed a film, which at the time I disregarded, seemed like an appropriate rent. I was ready to be fully aware, and Al Gore was going to be my medium.

The once next president of the United States has embarked on a mission to teach, inform, and in hope, change how the course people of this planet approach mother earth.

A few minutes into the movie and propaganda had settled in. Though this film was about global warming and the emission of carbon dioxide into our thin atmosphere, it was a punch in the face of reality. Al Gore is too smart to become president!

"Balance is necessary, not just to people and their lives, but to their ecological surroundings."

His agenda is a lot clearer than our current president, and a lot farther from creating war and conflict.

Reading deeper into the film and you subconsciously notice the strings hanging from President Bush's body. He is merely a puppet, and for all we know Condoleezza Rice is the master.

The film defines Al Gores legacy and his strong passion for our existence. The irony is- he's in politics. And we can almost thank God that him losing the election has benefited man kind (ouch! Irony again).

While you slowly learn that ice around the world is melting at an incredible rate in turn raising the ocean level, you get the feeling that action must be taken.

But how can an individual become more cautious? It has everything to do with dependency.

One might be dependent on gas running cars, a hybrid could dramatically change the emissions of carbon dioxide which directly contributes to global warming.

The point is that there is too much heat trapped in our atmosphere causing a disruption of balance.

Balance is necessary, not just to people and their lives, but to there ecological surroundings. Summers will only be getting hotter, winter's warmer, and natural disasters more frequent.

So as the weather continuously confuses us, be prepared for mosquitoes, carry some OFF, and make some subtle changes to make living a lot more comfortable and predictable- It's bad enough we have the media.

Because while we don't know exactly what's going on in Iraq or around the world, I can only hope you don't ignore what's obviously in front of your eyes. Sometimes reality can be really inconvenient.

Cartoon by Said El-Dajani

Hungry art students deserve more room

■ An art student rants about the desolate-feeling art building

By Michelle Yahne

A few days ago, a friend and I were discussing how we thought the arts department here at IPFW gets a little shafted sometimes, especially with the recent construction woes of the new music building.

Our parking is horrible (hey, you try carrying a huge drawing in wind/rain/snow into the building and tell me how successful you are), and we have a closet for a lounge. While I may seem like I'm just complaining, I have a valid point hidden amongst these words.

Art majors have to take studio classes, and while these classes are still only three credits per class, they are twice as long as any lecture class. Lecture classes meet for an average of seventy-five minutes twice a week. Studio classes on the other hand, meet for one hundred sixty-five minutes twice a week, with a ten-to-fifteen minute break in the middle. I personally have four of these studio classes. Therefore, on Tuesdays and Thursdays I am on campus for 12.

If I forget to pack some grub, I'm not going to have anything for lunch or dinner. Our fifteen minute breaks, whether in or out of class, are not even long enough to sprint to Walb and wait in line for food, or get something decent from a vending machine.

"There are more than a few hundred art majors, and let me tell you, that room gets cramped."

Since the music building construction is still underway and many other new plans are in the works for IPFW, I beg of you one thing, please give us more space for a lounge, and some sort of food avenue. Not only would it make art and theatre students happier, but if you look at the profiting aspect, you would make a ton of money off of us!

I may be selling my soul for saying that, but it is true. In asking a couple more of my friends how they felt, they all gave me the same response- that they would definitely buy food from a vendor if we had one close to our building. It's not that IPFW doesn't do a good job of providing vendors for students; we have countless decent vending machines, Taco Bell in Walb, along with Subway, and Pizza Hut pizza by the slice in the basement of Kettler.

The problem, once again, is that it takes at least ten-to fifteen-minutes to get there! Even walking to the music building, once completed, would be fine.

I know that the art building is probably a sore subject, as many improvements could be made, but trust me, if a food vendor were somewhere near the art building, I'm sure most students could overlook those improvements. We'd be too busy stuffing our faces with food to complain!

The other recent thing that a lot of my fellow art majors have been discussing is the size of our lounge. It is a very small rooro with two couches (actually, they're love seats), and two round tables. We have a chip and candy vending machine, a coke machine, a coffee machine, and a water machine.

At its best, you can have a seat at a table or the couch. At its busiest, which is most of the time, it is standing room only. There are more than a few hundred art majors, and let me tell you, that room gets cramped.

Don't get me wrong, when the weather is nice, most students are outside, like most of the campus. But let's be honest, from late August to the end of April, we only have about two months of nice weather.

However, in times like right now, which is the middle of winter, we are forced inside to congregate between classes, and sometimes it is hard to find a place to sit and chat while eating lunch (that's if I remembered it) without disturbing anyone else.

With a larger lounge (and if we had a food vendor) students would feel more comfortable to sit and relax and spend money on food. We would also feel more relaxed going back to our long studio classes, which would benefit the student and professors in tremendous ways, hence is the whole point of going to college anyway, right?

So IPFW, I ask you, may we pretty please have a larger lounge and some sort of food vendor? Pretty please with a cherry on top... We'll be on our best behavior too.

Beckham-ing to America

By Said El-Dajani
Managing Editor

If America were a television program, it would be a really great soap opera, a porno with a plot, and 24 all in one. And if you're not ready, ratings are about to go up. Soccer, or as the rest of the world calls it, football, not to be confused with Canadian Ice hockey, is about to get recognized as a sport Americans can actually get into. Why?

David Beckham, international soccer superstar, father of three, husband to Posh Spice, and an extremely sexy hair model, is coming to America. The last time this happened was when Eddie Murphy came to America, and of course he found a wife. So what the heck is David Beckham going to do in America?

It could be the 250-million-dollar contract he's getting. Maybe it's his attraction to the overly abundant paparazzi that doesn't quite do it for him in Europe. Or maybe it's his jealousy towards Daniel Radcliff, Harry Potter star, who happens to have a deeper voice than Beckham.

Nonetheless, he's playing soccer for L.A. Galaxy, which should definitely boost recordings on TIVO by women, potentially the economy, and solve world starvation... And by God, it's going to be bloody exciting.

Bad weather: no excuse for bad driving

Tiff's Tiffs

By Tiffany Dirig

This week's victim: Terrible Drivers

Last week, if you remember, we had that morning of "bad" weather. I'll admit that, when I stepped out of my apartment, I was almost sent sprawling. And, I did have to wait—with my defroster on high and wipers blazing—for my windshield to clear. (I refuse to scrape unless it's an absolute necessity. Ice-X was invented for people like me.) I will also tell you that, as I pulled out of my complex, I fishtailed onto the main road.

That's about where my observation of this so-called "inclement weather" ended. But, apparently, I was the only person that shared in this. After my exciting entry to the roadways, I made the mental note that there will, undoubtedly, be black ice. I took this to mean "be cognizant."

Oh, believe you me, I was very aware of the dolts ... er, people ... with whom I was sharing the thoroughfares. You want to know how I knew this critical piece of information? It took me an hour to make what is usually only a 20-minute jaunt. One full hour of swearing, honking, yelling, and fending for the nicotine I so audaciously gave up three weeks ago. Are you asking yourself why it took me so long? Two words: bad drivers.

Here's a very common misconception when "foul" weather pops up: driving 20mph will actually help.

Now, going that slowly is a hazard in and of itself, however the hazard is quadrupled when people are going that slowly and still tailgating! Driving like that isn't going to help when you have to slam (because none of the drivers I encountered remembered to pump their brakes) on your brakes. In fact, it's actually more dangerous.

We live in Indiana. This is what I don't understand. Indiana is neither known for its predictable weather nor for its warm winters. Does everyone just magically forget how to drive the millisecond that a snowflake hits the ground or a patch of ice appears?

Now, if I drove (going 40mph, but staying at least three car-lengths away from the car in front of me, by the way) past you that irritating Monday morning and you have never experienced an Indiana winter, then all is unquestionably forgiven—especially if you hail from Florida or California or anywhere Southwest. That being said, the rest of us have lived here long enough to know what to expect.

In fact, this has been the calmest winter I've seen in years. For crying out loud, remember back in 2004 when we got about 20 inches of snow in January alone? And, that's not even calculating in ice, hail, sleet, and the lot.

Seriously, we've made out like bandits this season. Learn how to drive in this state ... please, for the sake of the rest of us.

THE COMMUNICATOR

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The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing/major or title (if applicable). Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication.

All submissions made via e-mail will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, and no more than 700 words.

The editorial board of The Communicator reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style, and clarity. Letters deemed potentially libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.

'A' for Apple; 'I' for Issues

By Kendra Leonard

When I switched phone companies last September, I told my parents and everyone else that I selected Cingular Wireless because of the Rollover Minutes. I have a confession to make: That was a lie. I chose Cingular because of the adorable, teeny-tiny phone that was calling to me the moment I saw it on television. Yes, the Pantech C300 spoke to me, and Pierre (that's what I named him) whispered to me such wonderful and mysterious words that I knew he was the one for me. Looking back on my spontaneous decision, I'm lucky everything worked out in the end: it turns out Cingular is a great network.

Especially now that the all-new "iPhone" has been released. The "iPhone" is a 11.6 mm device (whatever that means) that includes a 3.5" 480x320 touch screen display, a 2 mega pixel camera, 4GB or 8GB of memory, Bluetooth capability, a WiFi sensor, and can sync with your computer for pictures and songs from iTunes. Apple boasts 5 hours of life for talk or video, 16 hours of music, but no word on simple standby time yet. And the phone is only offered through Cingular. Hooray for me and my fellow Cingular brothers and sisters!

With the above features being listed, there's something else as sensational about this "iPhone": the immense controversy surrounding the new gadget. Cisco, a company with claimed trademarks to the name "iPhone" is suing Apple, Inc. for stomping on their territory. Cisco tried to "reach an agreement to share our trademark with Apple, yet they decided to use the name without our agreement, so we, unfortunately, are having to go to court to stop them from using the name. We still hope we can reach an agreement, but when your neighbor steals your property, you have no recourse other than to call the cops and file a complaint," said Mark Chandler, senior vice president and general counsel of Cisco.

Apple, Inc. calls Cisco's claims "silly", holding to their stance that, "We're the first company to ever use the iPhone name for a cellphone." Apple spokesman Steve Dowling said. "If Cisco wants to challenge us on it, we're very confident we'll prevail."

Why the confidence? Apparently there are many other companies using the term "iPhone" for VoIP products (like IP Phones), and Apple is just one of the many. Based on that, it seems Cisco is just suing Apple because of the immense success they've had since they release the iPod. Apple is a big name company. I've never even heard of Cisco: suing Apple would put them on the map. Another thing, who has ever heard of the Internet Phone Company LLC? They are an independent company, not related to either Cisco or Apple, and also have trademarks on the name "iPhone" (and I say 'trademark' here in the sense that Cisco is using it). And why hasn't anyone heard of LLC: Because they aren't suing Apple, Inc.

"I don't really care what the cell phone is called, this phone is an amazing piece of technology, and well... let's just say Pierre and I will be having a heart-to-heart talk in about a year."

But hey, you can form your own opinions why Cisco is aggressive and LLC isn't, though it seems they both have just as much right to the name as Apple does.

Unless of course, Apple, Inc. really is in the wrong, and then I say, Steve Jobs, that was rather mean of you. What's wrong is wrong, and I will be the first to admit I know little about the way gigantic money-making companies operate.

But let's look at history: Apple Corps are the producers exclusive to the Beatles, as any true fan should know. In 2003, they attempted to sue Apple, Inc., claiming they broke an agreement to never enter the music scene, due to the similar name/trademark. Apple Corps' suit was overruled in May 2006 by a U.K. judge. And much further back, aren't there the rumors of Bill Gates essentially copying Macintosh's main components to create his billion-dollar industry in the 1900s?

Apple, Inc. has been especially careful after that incident, as all big-name companies are, especially with trademarks. Chances are Apple, Inc. will once again prevail in court against Cisco.

I don't really care what the cell phone is called, this phone is an amazing piece of technology, and well... let's just say Pierre and I will be having a heart-to-heart talk in about a year.

All the anti-Mac people out there are probably calling me simple and/or insolent right about now, but let's be realistic here: there's the "iPod", the "iBook", "iTunes" and the "iMac", so whether or not the official name of the "iPhone" is just that, we're all going to call it the "iPhone" anyways.

Information Courtesy of:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPhone
http://news.com.com/2100-1041_3-6148392.html
http://blogs.wsj.com/law/2007/01/10/lawsuit/
www.apple.com/iphone
http://www.engadget.com/2007/01/09/the-apple-iphone/

Introducing expectation to preparation

By Stephanie Samples
Chief Reporter

Recently two friends of mine got engaged to each other. The engagement in itself was not a shock to me as it was obvious it was coming. On the other hand, the engagement got me thinking.

Am I really old enough to have married friends?

When I have thought of marriage in the past, I never thought it would happen this early. I was asked to be a bridesmaid, which I am very thankful for, but I never thought that I would be getting sized for a bridesmaid dress and studying for finals at the same time, which in a few months will be happening.

While I am so happy for my friend, these changes can be hard to swallow. I don't know when I thought all of these changes would start to happen, but I don't think I thought it would be this soon.

It seems that all changes come before you are ready for them. A person spends 12 years in school and feels that graduation will never come, but when it does you wonder where the time went. Personally, when I graduated from high school I was ready, but couldn't believe how fast it had come.

In college you think that the next four years are going to drag, and when they don't you wonder how prepared you are for what will happen next. I am in the second semester of my junior year and cannot believe how fast the past few years have gone by.

So the question I asked myself was, are we really ever ready?

I don't think we are. I think that if a person waited until they were really ready with no fear for a new journey whether it be marriage, a career, or children then it would never happen. In a journey, is it not the excitement and mystery of it all that make all of the worries worth it?

Unfortunately life is not a movie where the music chimes in and you know at that moment it is the right time to make some sort of life-changing decision.

In real life we must find the music all on our own, and sadly sometimes we are listening to the wrong song, but when we find the right one we have to listen because if we don't we may find ourselves forever waiting for someone to find it for us.

Although there are many things I know at this time I am not ready for, I need to let go of when I think I will be ready and pay more attention to when I feel I am ready.

Even though the thought of going to dinner with friends and seeing them with diaper bags frightens me, it will happen sooner than I think, and most likely, like many other changes, when it happens it will be nothing like I expected.

Saving Darfur needs to be top priority

By Curtis J. Nash

Not much has been reported in the national media these days about the incomprehensibly horrible situation in Darfur, with the headlines being dominated by Iraq and David Beckham's 250-million-dollar contract to play for the LA Galaxy.

It makes one wonder if anything is being done to prove that the world can learn from history and avoid past lessons from inaction in Rwanda, Bosnia and the many other situations which did not prove it.

The news of the day to day happenings in Darfur is not pleasant, light fare to accompany one's evening coffee to be sure, and it makes one wonder how can the media complain that we Americans care more about protecting oil-rich people when they don't send their reporters to cover Darfur.

Anyway, much political maneuvering is going on to address the situation in Darfur, by the United Nations and our own government, and the question has to be wondered if it will do any good. Will diplomatic responses to the Darfurian question stick?

After all, a peace agreement was signed last May. However, at the time there were two or three rebel factions involved in the agreement, and after the much-heralded signing they split into numerous factions which claim that they did not agree to a truce.

The President of Sudan did what he had to, according to him, and initiated a nation-wide crackdown on them, and the result was that the murderous free-for-all went on with scarcely a break.

At the onset of this year, the President of Sudan agreed to accept a new peacekeeping force, made up of UN peacekeepers to aid the impotent African Union peacekeeping force whose numbers were woefully helpless, to watch over an area roughly the size of France.

However, the whereabouts of three UN peacekeepers that disappeared last year are still unknown. Also, the original agreement for the larger UN force would have added about 30,000 peacekeepers to the African Union contingent, and the Sudanese government has since balked at allowing this many.

"Like Bruce Springseen sang, 'One step up and two steps back.'"

Like Bruce Springsteen sang, "One step up and two steps back." Bill Richardson, the Governor of New Mexico, has led an American attempt at addressing the situation. He was in Sudan last week, where he got the two sides to agree to a 60-day cease-fire.

However, when he left, the signers swore that they agreed to nothing. Still, Janjaweed patrols continue outside the IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) camps waiting to rape the women and castrate or murder the men who leave the camp to gather firewood.

Still, Janjaweed horsemen ride into the villages to finish off what remains after Sudanese Air Force strafing runs in what appears to be well-coordinated attacks, although officially the government denies that a connection exists.

Ban Ki-moon, the new UN Secretary-General, has vowed to make Darfur the top priority when he travels to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Jan 29 to address African issues.

His special envoy on Darfur, Jan Eliasson, is in Khartoum (the capital of Sudan) as I write this. Will these diplomatic attempts to stop the genocide, which the world is compelled to do according to the Genocide Act of 1948, accomplish this goal?

According to Eliasson, a military solution would be impossible. The President of The Sudan, when actually agreeing to past agreements, has simply crossed his arms and waited for the fireworks to continue, knowing that nothing would change since no one was forcing him to do anything.

Despite the fact that the situation in Darfur is covered only sporadically in earnest, there are attempts to bring this to a peaceful conclusion.

Whether or not any attempt to accomplish this will stick or be ignored remains to be seen.

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Arts & Entertainment

Wednesday, January 17, 2007
vol. XXXVII, issue XVI

'Castlevania Portrait of Ruin:' Too much of a good thing?

By Mike Webb
Arts & Entertainment Editor

I know what you're thinking; just when do college students have time to play video games anyway? The truth is, we probably shouldn't, but many of us do. With the growing popularity of powerful portable gaming systems such as the Sony PSP, the Nintendo DS, and even certain modem mobile phones, quick bouts of gaming on the go has never been easier (or as high quality).

Having said that, have you ever heard of Castlevania? If you are a gamer and you haven't, then we have a problem. The first game made its U.S. debut nearly 20 years ago on the NES. Something like 25 games later (appearing on every major and some not so major gaming platforms over the years) we get the latest in the beloved series of games, this time on the Nintendo DS, titled "Castlevania: Portrait of Ruin."

First of all don't try to figure out the title. Konami (the company behind the game) has been stringing together gothic sounding words for years and probably don't really know the title's relevance either.

First the storyline: the year is 1944 and World War II has drudged up much death and destruction. The pains from these events are ideal breading grounds for evil, and ultimately lead to the appearance of castle Dracula somewhere in Europe.

Traditionally, a clan of warriors known as the Belmonts have faced Dracula and thwarted his resurrection (25 times or so), but there are no Belmonts to rise against the threat, so this time our heroes are Jonathan Morris and Charlotte Aulin (both connected to the Belmont clan somehow).

Though the castle is that of Dracula, the master of the castle seems to be a different vampire known as Brauner. Regardless of his identity, his intentions cannot be good, and so the young vampire bunter and witch in training enter the castle to face the

▸ Catlevania: *Page 05*

'The Night Listener:' An interesting concept that could have really used Mr. Hitchcock's help

By Mike Webb
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Like many, I passed over Miramax's "The Night Listener" while it was in theaters. Even though Robin Williams is one of my favorite actors, the movie just didn't seem to have any huzz surrounding it, and the trailers were far too vague to truly catch my interest.

I had all but forgotten about this movie entirely until I saw the DVD case in the "New Release" area of the rental store. Right on the cover, we see that Richard Roeper and guest reviewer Jay Leno gave it "Two thumbs way up." Thinking to myself "maybe I'm missing out on something," I rented it.

"...the uneasiness you feel will be as a result of knowing that the story is true, not a result of this movie's depiction of it."

Now, I don't know either of those men personally and I don't watch Ebert & Roeper, so I am unfamiliar with the types of movies they like. I do know that I am the one reviewing the movie now, and both of my thumbs are sort of pointing off to the side somewhere.

"The Night Listener" gives us a glimpse into the life of Gabriel Noone (Robin Williams), a man whose life is in a state of limbo.

Gabriel is the host of a radio show where he takes events from his own life, embellishes them just enough to make them engaging and listenable, and then tells them on late night radio as a narrative.

This approacb has worked well for him for years, but the relationship where he drew most of his inspiration has come to an end, and as a middle-aged gay man with no children, Gabriel is feeling very alone and dejected. As a result, his show is put on hold as he tries to figure out how to simply live.

In the midst of this, he is given a disturbing manuscript penned by a dying 14-year-old boy named Pete.

In the manuscript, Pete details horrific abuse he received from a group of adults when he was younger.

As Gabriel's biggest fan, it was important to Pete that Gabriel read the script before it is published. This leads to telephone contact, and the development of a type of father-son relationship which fills a void in both of their lives and delivers unto them a certain peace of mind. That peace of mind is enough for Gabriel to draw strength from, and he begins to feel as if he may be alright after all. That is, until it comes to his attention that Pete's voice sounds eerily similar to that of his adopted mother (Donna), and nobody has ever met Pete except over the phone.

Now, this to me is a scary concept. I have never been one to chat online or anything of the sort, and it is as a result of just not knowing who is on the other end. The story becomes even scarier when you realize that it really happened!

The original novel was written by Armistead Maupin (a.k.a. Gabriel Noone), and this movie represents a slightly embellished version of his life at the time (Just like Gabriel's radio show).

The actual existence of the young boy was never proven (after intense investigation, there is every reason to think he didn't exist). It is thought that Armistad was speaking the entire time with a woman in her forties. The "boy's" manuscript was never published, and the woman is assumed to still be out there somewhere.

The movie itself is somewbat flat. Robin Williams is an amazingly diverse actor, and his portrayal of Gabriel Noone is very convincing, but he is underutilized here. Any man who can play Popeye in a live action film, a romantic who journeys through hell to bring his beloved wife back (as in "What Dreams May Come"), and then convincingly play a depressed middle aged gay man is a master of his art.

Conceptually the movie is very scary, but it could have been terrifying if done right. The highs just aren't high enough and the lows aren't low enough.

Before you know it, the movie is over and the uneasiness you feel will be as a result of knowing that the story is true, not a result of this movie's depiction of it.

I have to say, I do not dislike "The Night Listener." I have truly never seen a movie such as this before, but I can't help thinking about how good it could have been if done differently.

A script of this sort would have benefitted from the expertise of someone like Alfred Hitchcock to bring it to fruition. There were moments that should have been so much more creepy than they ended up.

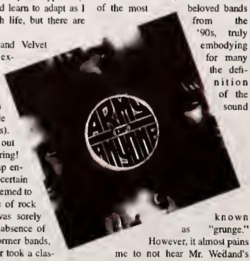
As it stands, the special features have the actual people who experienced these events talking about them, and serve to be much more suspenseful than the movie itself.

When taken as a whole, the DVD becomes an alright package for fans of the genre - not fabulous, just alright. Only seek this one out if the story intrigues you.

Army of Anyone: The newest super-group isn't really very super at all

By Mike Webb
Arts & Entertainment Editor

I have a problem. It seems I try to make myself like anything that feels the least bit nostalgic to me, even the stuff not worth liking. Be it music, movies, television, you name it; if I loved it as a child, I'm trying to love it now too (most of the time I am strangely let down by this approach). Perhaps I should learn to adapt as I advance through life, but there are exceptions.



Take the band Velvet Revolver for example (a.k.a. Guns N' Roses, with Scott Weiland from Stone Temple Pilots on vocals). This band came out of the hatch firing! With a hyped up energy level and a certain dirtiness that seemed to embody a style of rock and roll that was sorely missed by the absence of both of their former bands, Velvet Revolver took a classic style of rock and made it relevant in a non-relevant time due to their passionate and honest approach.

It is only natural then for me to have been excited about the newest super-group to rise from the ashes of former glory: Army of Anyone. Consisting of brothers Dean DeLeo and Robert DeLeo from Stone Temple Pilots on guitar and bass respectively, the established Ray Luzier on drums, and Richard Patrick (the brains behind Filter) on vocals, Army of Anyone sounds as if it should have been poised for success...and it could have been.

Released on a label known as The Firm, Army of Anyone's debut is also self titled. The first thing you notice upon listening to the album's opener "It Doesn't Seem to Matter" is that this sounds a lot more like S.T.P. than Filter. That is fine, as S.T.P is one of the most beloved bands from the '90s, truly embodying for many the definition of the sound known as "grunge."

However, it almost pains me to not hear Mr. Weiland's voice in place of Richard Patrick's. Patrick is a great singer, but his style is much cleaner than Weiland's, and sounds somewhat out of place here, especially since the comparisons are inevitable.

Filter was a band that was experimental in many ways. Though also originating in the '90s, Filter had more in common with Stabbing Westward than S.T.P. and their music often incorporated both ambience and experimental programming which drew strong comparisons to Nine Inch Nails (Not surprising considering Patrick did a stint as a Guitarist for them before forming Filter).

"The influences of '70s rock and roll are in full force here, and the grunginess is ever-present"

Because of the stylistic differences between their former bands, it seems odd that they would choose to work together, but certainly not anywhere near as odd as the makeup of Audioslave (another super-group, that is in my opinion not super at all).

It must be said that these guys can play! The Deleo brothers are very underrated, as the attitude and showmanship of Scott Weiland served to overshadow the rest of S.T.P. during their troubled but brilliant career. The influences of '70s rock and roll are in full force here, and the grunginess is ever-present (asking them to not play in such a way would be like asking me to speak a language I don't know).

The drummer (another super-group) band) is one of the more pleasant surprises to be found here.

Richard Patrick is his usual self (just without as many trademark soaring screams). I have to say, it is good to hear from him again, he just sounds a little out of his element. "Father Figure" is the most Filter-esque song on the record, and he simply shines on this track

I truly believe this could have been (and may yet one day be) something very special if those involved would take the best aspects of their former bands and merge them together in a cohesive way that they can be passionate about.

As good as some of this record is, what we ultimately have here is a band playing the same music they played 12 years ago, with a singer that doesn't fit, and at a time when radio isn't playing that sort of thing. It's good, but not very relevant. Too little to late.

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▸ Castlevania
From Page 04

supernatural horrors within.

With that, you are plopped into the game, and if you've played any Castlevania games within the last seven years, then you already know what you are doing. You are running around a castle viewing the action from the side in an old-school gaming sort of way, gaining power ups which allow access to new areas until your final confrontation.

This approach has worked amazingly well for the last four portable games, but finally it is starting to wear a bit thin.

Don't get me wrong, the game is amazing. The graphics look wonderful (with a much more colorful and anime inspired look than before), the soundtrack is classic Castlevania rock-goth-classical in a blender. The environments are rich and diverse, and the action is fast-paced and very fun, but we've played this before already.

To its credit, the game does make use of a couple of new features. One is the dual character approach. You can switch between Jonathan and Charlotte on the fly. Each character has different abilities and weapons, so it is a different experience to control either and is necessary to tread all of the needed ground. You can also have both characters on screen at once (one computer controlled). This works surprisingly well, and is a fresh change.

Older Catlevania games were very straight forward. You play a stage, finish it, and go on to the next very different stage. Later games have had various areas all inside of one interconnected castle. "Portrait of Ruin" keeps the diverse castle, but also has eight portals which lead to different areas that are more wide open, and must be completed to finish the game. In a way, this game brings the different stages back to the franchise.

Since it can be completed in around seven hours (not including the bonus unlockable modes), this one is perfect for quick 10-15 minute sessions from time to time. When you include those bonus modes (being able to replay the game using different characters), there is replay value here.

If you are a fan of the series, this game should be at the top of your list. If you are new to the series, this game should be your introduction to it. But if you have grown bored with the last few games in the series, this one will not change your opinion. Remember Konami, diversity is your best friend.

Campus Calendar

IPFW

for Jan. 18–24, 2007

18 **ACCS Express Lanes:** 15-minute drop-in résumé critiques, KT 109, noon–2 p.m. For information, call 16595.

Student Organization Leadership Development: WU 114-116, noon–1:30 p.m. For information, call 16283.

University Religious Forum: "American Bodies, American Idols?" Beth Kaskel, IPFW nursing department, and Don Smith, IPFW personal counselor; CM 148, noon–1:15 p.m. Simple lunch served at noon; no charge. For information, call 16992.

20 **Irish Immersion Festival:** CM, noon–8:15 p.m. Live music, workshops, food; Irish Mass at 5 p.m. Also 9 p.m.–midnight at Pulver's in the Marketplace of Canterbury. For more information, call 14140 or 260-438-9598.

Athletic Event: Women's Basketball vs. Butler, GC, 1 p.m. For information, call 16643.

Indiana Regional Future City Competition: WU Ballroom; public viewing of models 9–11 a.m., finals and awards 1–4 p.m. For more information, call 15756.

22 **Eating Disorder Support Group:** WU 234, 6:30–8:30 p.m. For information, call 16647.

Lecture: International portrait photographer Joyce Wilson, KT Studio Theatre, 6–8 p.m.; free admission. For information, call 16709.

23 **IPFW Book Discussion Group:** *Going after Cacciato* by Tim O'Brien; KT 101, noon–1 p.m. For information, call 16160.

24 **ACCS Express Lanes:** 15-minute drop-in résumé critiques, KT 109, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. For information, call 16595.

Athletic Event: Women's Basketball vs. Valparaiso, GC, 7 p.m.

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IPFW

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Sports

Wednesday, January 17, 2007
vol. XXXVII, issue XVI

Men's Volleyball opens season with two home wins

Photo by Nic Pyle

Freshman Matt Pliske dives for the volleyball helping seal a victory against Penn State, Saturday night.

Win 1, setting off to a great start

Courtesy of IPFW Athletics Departments

Fort Wayne, IN - Head Coach Arnie Ball's IPFW Mastodon men's volleyball squad looked in mid-season form on Friday night, at the Hilliard Gates Sports Center. The Volleydons took care of visiting Saint Francis (PA) in three straight in the 'Dons opening match of the season.

The #7 Mastodons dropped the Red Flash by the final of 30-21, 30-19, and 30-26.

IPFW's junior All-America outside hitter, C.J. Macias, got the 'Dons going early with six kills in the first set.

Between the arm swing of Macias and the blocking of senior middle Vitor Oliveira, who had five block assists, IPFW had little trouble taking a 1-0 lead.

IPFW picked up their hitting in the second set, finishing with a crisp .458 on 15 of 24 hitting with only four errors.

Saint Francis' turned to athletic middle hitter Marc Honore for some offense, and he provided it. Honore put down a team-high 15 balls, but it wasn't enough as the Mastodon offense continued to click.

Macias finished the match with 20 kills, hitting .548, which was just shy of his career-high .552 set against Clarke last season.

Macias also had five of the 'Dons 25 block assists in the match. He finished the night with eight digs.

Oliveira, who replaces Serdar Sikca in the middle, had a fantastic debut with seven block assists and five kills.

Senior outside hitter Josh Collins put down nine balls and hit .467. The Mastodons as a team hit .412 in the match.

Senior setter Colin Lundeen registered 38 assists to go along with his seven digs.

Honore led the Red Flash (1-1) with 15 kills (.500).

As a team, IPFW out blocked Saint Francis 12.5 to 5.5.

The 'Dons will look to make it 2-0 as they host fellow NCAA semi-finalist #8 Penn State tomorrow night at 7pm at the Gates Center. Penn State topped Ball State 3-0 tonight in Muncie, Indiana.

Win 2, spiking it to number 8 Penn State

Courtesy of IPFW Athletics Department

Fort Wayne, IN - The #7 IPFW Mastodons topped #8 Penn State, 3-0 in front of a raucous crowd of 1,394 at the Hilliard Gates Sports Center on Saturday night.

In a very close match, it was the Volleydons sweeping last year's national finalists by the scores of 30-28, 30-28, and 30-25.

In the opening set, it was some uncharacteristic sloppy play from the Nittany Lions that allowed IPFW to go on a 6-2 run and open up a 17-12 lead.

IPFW junior All-America C.J. Macias registered three kills in the Mastodons four final points to give the 'Dons the opening set.

In the second set, it was PSU senior outside hitter Alex Gutor who kept the Nittany Lions close with consecutive kills that tied the match at 10. But, IPFW senior middle hitter Vitor Oliveira put down a pair of kills late in the set to help the 'Dons take a 2-0 lead.

IPFW had little trouble in the third.

The Mastodons put the ball in the hands of Macias and he registered three straight kills, from the back row, to give the 'Dons the sweep.

Macias led all scorers in the match with 18 kills and 18.5 points.

Oliveira and senior outside hitter Josh Collins each added seven kills.

Gutor led Penn State (1-1) with 15 kills and 17.5 points.

With the win, IPFW improves to 2-0. They will return to action, on the road, next weekend with matches at Loyola-Chicago and Clarke.

Photo by Nic Pyle

IPFW's volleyball captain Matt Plinske bump passes the ball. IPFW defeated Penn State Saturday night in three close matches.

Photo by Nic Pyle

Head Coach Arnie Ball motivates his team to victory against Penn State.

Women's Track earns fifth place at BGSU Triangular

Courtesy of IPFW Athletics Department

Bowling Green, OH-The women's track and field team traveled to Bowling Green State University to compete in the BGSU Triangular this afternoon. The 'Dons placed 5th in the meet with a score of 9 points; Western Michigan took top honors with 180 points.

IPFW was led by senior Ashley Ritchey (Leo, IN/Leo) who secured more than half of the team's points with a third place finish in the 5,000m run. Ritchey completed the run in 17:45.31.

Also scoring for IPFW was freshman Marta Flippen (Fort Wayne, IN/Wayne) who chalked up a point with a sixth place finish in 600m run. The 4x400m relay team comprised of Brooke Newman (Angola, IN/Prairie Heights), Marcell Smith (Fort Wayne, IN/Harding), Nakita Matthews (Gary, IN/Gary Roosevelt), and Flippen kicked in 2 points as well.

The 'Dons will continue the indoor portion of their season next week with a return trip to Bowling Green for the BGSU Invite on Friday, January 19, 2007.

Sports Events 1/17 - 1/23

Friday January 19

- Women's Track, BGSU Invite, at Bowling Green 5 p.m.
- Women's Tennis at Detroit Michgan, 6 p.m.
- Men's Volleyball at Loyola, 7 p.m.

Saturday January 20

- Women's basketball vs Butler at Gates, 1 p.m.
- Women's Tennis at Western Michigan, 1 p.m.
- Men's Baseball at Loyola, 3 p.m.
- Men's Volleyball at Clarke, 7 p.m.

Sunday January 21

- Women's Tennis at UW Green Bay, 10 a.m.

Monday January 22

- Men's Basketball at Valparaiso, 7:05 p.m.

Where are all the Mastodon fans?

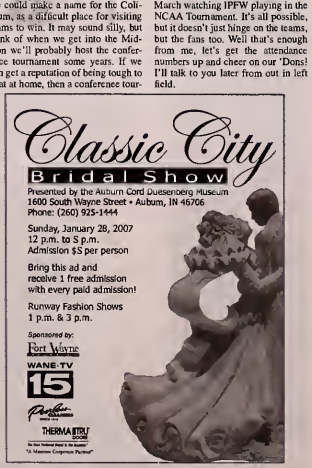
Out in Left Field
By Sam Sprunger

IPFW is not the only college that I've called home in my days as a coed. Before I became a Mastodon, I roamed a college to our south in Muncie. During my time there I went to many basketball games with more than 6000 people there at times. I was at a game that had the most dramatic ends that I have ever witnessed. Our team had come from 12 behind, and the crowd was electric and loud.

We hit a shot at the buzzer to take the game in to overtime. Down by two, at the end of OT, our team hit a half court shot at the buzzer to win the game against our hated rival!

The arena erupted, we were giving high-fives to everyone, screaming, and celebrating. The noise was deafening. This brings me to Tuesday night when I covered IPFW playing Western Illinois- the team that IPFW played a few weeks back and won in five OT's and future Mid-Continent Conference rival. The first encounter was a great game, but this second time was a pretty dam good one too.

Western Illinois came out shooting and seemed like they couldn't miss a shot. Everything they put up seemed to score points. They led by nine half way through the first half. That's when IPFW went on a run to get back even, then it was back-and-forth for the rest of the half that ended how else? Tied. This is how evenly these two teams are to each other. Seven of the nine periods that these teams have played this year (two halves and five overtime periods) have started with neither team ahead, and six of nine ended the same way. The second half started out well with the 'Dons coming out and jumping ahead by eight. Then Western Illinois pulled itself out of a slow shooting start to the half, and got even. Close to the end of the game, I noticed something that I had only seen back in Muncie: A team almost being willed to victory by the crowd. With just over a minute left Jaraun Burrows got a lay-up to tie the game, and that's when it hit me.

The arena blew up. There were about 1100 people there and it sounded like there were double that in the stands. Then it snowballed, when Burrows (who had four fouls) blocked Xavier Price's shot with 32 seconds left, again it sounded like there were twice as many people. Then the curtain call of the night, when Burrows got the lay-up to go down with less than 2 seconds remaining, the place exploded. It wasn't quite as loud it was that day back in Muncie, when we beat our rivals, but it was in the same area code. The Coliseum was loud and there's no two ways to put it. I can't imagine how loud it could've been if there had been 2000 people there, or 3000? There's some great basketball being played by the IPFW basketball teams. Last Saturday the women lost a nail-biter, at the end, but played great basketball.

It was a very exciting game, but there were only 270 people there. We can get IPFW to become a place that visiting teams hate to play. We need to come out to support them with numbers. Even if we could fill the Gates Center halfway or more, for our Lady 'Dons, teams coming in would feel pressure to keep the crowd out of the game, and force them to play tight. If we could get 3000 people at rest of our home games (five remaining), we could make a name for the Coliseum, as a difficult place for visiting teams to win. It may sound silly, but think of when we get into the Mid-Con we'll probably host the conference tournament some years. If we can get a reputation of being tough to beat at home, then a conferenee tournament championship wouldn't be to far off in the future. Imagine in the next few years, you could be sitting on a Thursday or Friday afternoon in March watching IPFW playing in the NCAA Tournament. It's all possible, but it doesn't just hinge on the teams, but the fans too. Well that's enough from me, let's get the attendance numbers up and cheer on our 'Dons! I'll talk to you later from out in left field.